

STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

PROCLAMATION

Executive Order

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETING:

- WHEREAS, May 17, 2004 marks the 50th anniversary of the unanimous U.S. Supreme Court decision, in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case, declaring segregation of children in public schools by race, a "deprivation of equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment" of the U.S. Constitution; and
- WHEREAS, in the landmark decision, the U.S. Supreme Court nullified the "separate but equal" doctrine as it was applied to public education following the *Plessy v. Ferguson* case;
- WHEREAS, 50 years later, Hoosiers school children continue to learn about this historical U.S. Supreme Court case and its ramifications for the Civil Rights movement and society as a whole; and
- WHEREAS, on May 17, 2004, the Indiana Supreme Court is collaborating with the Indiana Civil Rights Commission to celebrate the anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education* decision; and
- WHEREAS, the day's events include a ceremony involving Indiana school children in the Supreme Court Chamber, followed by a seminar on the case in the Indiana House Chamber, culminating with a lunchtime reception in the atrium of the Courts; and
- WHEREAS, it is fitting to recognize the important ramifications of *Brown v. Board of Education* and what it has meant to citizenry of the State of Indiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH E. KERNAN, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim May 17, 2004, as

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION DAY

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to take due note of the observance.



Todd Rokita

ATTEST: Todd Rokita
Secretary of State

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Indiana at the Capitol in Indianapolis on this 7th day of April, 2004.

Joseph E. Kernan

BY THE GOVERNOR: Joseph E. Kernan
Governor of Indiana